

Were you a cradle Christian?

The answer to this question depends on your age. If you are 50 or over the answer is probably yes. You were probably baptized and married in a church. For you then, even if you never step inside a church nowadays, the existence of the church is something that you take for granted. You like to think that it is there to baptize your grandchildren and conduct your funeral, as indeed it is. But if you are middle-aged or younger and your only exposure to Christianity was singing carols at primary school, the existence of the church may mean nothing at all, and if it were to disappear, you would not miss it.

It is hard to imagine this being the case in many other societies where organised religion still makes a meaningful impact on the day-to-day life of ordinary people. The Church of England has proclaimed the good news of God's love for the world in Jesus Christ for nearly 500 years. Even before that, for 300 years people had been worshipping in St Mary's church here in Barton and getting baptized, married and buried there. The fact that in the 21st century few people seem to want to hear about the love of God is a terrible reflection on those of us who do go to church, and many of us worry about it.

Do we lead such indifferent lives that no one realises that we rejoice in the gospel of Jesus Christ? The answer is often yes. Our lives fail to demonstrate love for God and our neighbour. It was ever thus. And though it is tempting to look for scapegoats - other faiths, schools, the press – it will be apathy which will decide English Christianity's future. Then we may discover that the rose-tinted religionless world of John Lennon's 'Imagine' was no more than a 1960's song, and that we do not know how long European civilisation will survive the extinction of the faith that gave it birth.

Peter Large

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES

At our Corporate Communion Service on June 4th Father David blessed our new vases (engraved with the MU logo). These are now in use at the rear of Trinity altar.

On Tuesday June 17th St Mary's Mothers' Union joined with other groups from the Glanford Cluster at St John's Church Brigg for the Group Festival Service.

Each group's banner was carried forward during the first hymn to be placed either side of the altar to be on display throughout the service. The service was based on "Christ being our Cornerstone" with each of us being living stones united in love and service and founded in Christ. Members from each group read the readings and said prayers. Rev Owain Mitchell presided over the communion service. The banners were collected during the final hymn and paraded down the aisle. After the service refreshments were served in the hall where the fellowship continued meeting and chatting with friends old and new.

Prayer from the service:-

Loving Lord we offer to you our prayers for the future of Mothers' Union in the Lincoln Diocese and especially in our Glanford Group. Build us together as living stones; for the growth of your kingdom and the glory of Christ. Amen.

Brenda Skinner

Flower rota

Aug 3rd Janet Petch

Aug 24th Brenda Skinner

PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

St. Mary's Ladies' group

As our advertised speaker in June was unable to attend, we were treated to a talk about Samuel Wilderspin. He was born in 1791 and grew up in Hornsey, then a rural area outside London, and had an idyllic childhood until the age of 7. Despite a bad experience at Dame School, he taught at a Sunday School in Spitalfields and developed his own ideas on Infant Education, which were very different from the ideas of the time. He set up his own Infant schools where there was a lot of play, both structured and unstructured, no corporal punishment and a monitorial

system. He pioneered the provision of playgrounds where children played freely at break times, as he realised that was where children learnt social skills and interaction.

After a while he moved to Cheltenham and opened schools throughout the UK, and as the children were tested he could show his ideas were effective. Looking for somewhere cheaper to be based, he came to Barton upon Humber and the land in Queen Street was purchased, funds raised for building, and Samuel became Head of the first purpose-built Infant School.

Having influential friends like Charles Dickens who petitioned Queen Victoria he was awarded the first teachers' pension and eventually moved to Wakefield where he died.

Gill Dear

Our first July meeting was a 'Summer Social' - some commented that it didn't seem much like it when playing Beetle was included! Where was the nice garden to sit in? You may well ask. Well, the committee did their best decorating the tables with summer posies (thank you Elizabeth and Julia) and we did have strawberries on top of scones with jam and cream! Not forgetting the Pimms!! 60 members enjoyed themselves - I have to say, one of the only meetings where members move round the room talking to people to whom they wouldn't otherwise talk.

The evening rounded off with prizes for the winner and loser and the completion of this year's raffle.

Sue Wright

Our outing in July was to Melton Mowbray to make our own pork pies. We enjoyed a scenic ride with a stop at Downtown for some retail therapy and lunch.

On arrival at Dickinson and Morris Pork Pie shop we donned fetching blue plastic aprons and hair nets before watching a demonstration of pie making. The dough was hot water pastry already made for us with the lid rolled out, and the meat prepared. We watched as the larger piece of dough was worked by hand to a malleable state before being gently stretched around the "dolly", the mould, and raised up the sides by hand, hence "hand raised pies." After that, the meat was thrown in to eliminate air, the lid put on and the edges crimped. The pie was finished with an egg glaze and left to cool before being baked next day. Then it was our turn! Much hilarity ensued but everyone managed an acceptable pie which was left for baking and the stock to be put in before collection next day.

It was explained that the Melton Mowbray Pork Pie is a unique product which is geographically controlled in the same way as Champagne, it can only be made in a defined location with specific ingredients and that the only difference between the producers' pies is the final seasoning. Everyone enjoyed their experience both of the day and eating the pie.

Gill Dear

Our first meeting in Sept is on the 3rd - Rachel Green (famous Lincolnshire Chef.)
New members are welcome!

News from the Lamert family

Ma and Pa were interred on the 22nd April 2014; present were daughters both biological and borrowed, Catty, Alex and Laura. They are now resting peacefully in Saltwell Cemetery, section K, space 315. This is a cemetery full of love, obviously much visited but peaceful. Ma and Pa have a spot under a larch tree but with enough sun to get the approval of Pops. The cemetery was chosen for its beauty and position overlooking the Tyne Valley. It was chosen by Mum based on a lovely family day out that we had in Saltwell Park which is opposite. I have therefore included a picture [See centre pages.] of Mum and Dad posing by "The Language Stone", known by the locals as, "The Love Stone", in Saltwell Park on the aforementioned day. Happy memories.

Thank you everyone for your support last year, you were their family too.

Traidcraft

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The growth of the fair trade movement in the UK is a success story for which the church can claim much of the credit. Thank you for the part your church has played in helping to make the UK the world's largest fair trade market.

It's a great achievement and one for which we give thanks to God. But the job's not done, which is why we need our church supporters more than ever.

The spread of fair trade into the mainstream – which we helped pioneer – is giving hope and opportunity to millions of small-scale growers and their families. However, supermarkets deal in large volumes so they can only work with producer organisations that have already achieved Fairtrade certification and with the capacity to supply them in the quantities they need.

That offers no opportunity to those commodity producers who are not yet at the Fairtrade Mark level – but would like to be – or to the millions struggling to support themselves and their families making crafts, textiles, jewellery, ceramics, or paper and card products, for which no Fairtrade Mark yet exists.

As a Christian response to poverty, Traidcraft directs much of its efforts towards these poor and marginalised producers, working with them to help improve their products, refine their techniques and develop their small businesses in ways which will allow them to gain their share of the global fair trade market.

People selling Traidcraft products in churches around the UK are a vital part of that picture. As well as providing a significant proportion of the income that pays for the work we do with producers, they are a "shop window" for our Christian values and our response to the scriptural call to seek justice for the poor. As such, they play a powerful role in our advocacy and outreach towards the church community – and to the world beyond the church doors.

We are earnestly asking you and your congregation to continue your support for our work by supporting your local Traidcraft Fair Trader or outlet – and through your excellent example, encourage other churches to do the same.

If you would like to know more about our work and how your church can engage with it further, please contact our Church Relations Manager Peter Collins on 0191 4976465 or email him at peterc@traidcraft.co.uk

Yours sincerely,
Paul Chandler
Chief Executive
Traidcraft

Wilderspin National School

As part of our Schooldays Memories project a few former teachers reunited this month to reminisce about the Church School. [See picture centre pages.] From left to right, pictured in the 1890s Classroom (which none of them recall from their teaching days!) is John Key, Sue Lacey Hatton (Miss Senior), Kathy Lawson, Lesley Fletcher, and Janet Smurthwaite (Miss Wordsworth). The group enjoyed getting together again and plan to do so again. Several others who were unable to come this time will hopefully be involved in the future.

“It was a very old school ... but it was a very happy school ... it was like a village school, like a family. The atmosphere was fantastic.” “I do remember leaving the school to go to St. Peter’s with those really big heavy trolleys, those dinner wagons, laden with stuff. There was one removal van but by and large we moved everything – it wouldn’t happen now! The children had a day off and we came in and we did the removals. What a day that was! The Log Book records the boiler finally packing up on that day in 1978!”

Don’t forget Retro Classroom Crafts for Kids sessions every Thursday during the summer holidays. Children aged 5-13 can try out one of several crafts their parents or grandparents will recall. Come back each week to try a different craft. The first session is on Thursday 24th July, 1pm-3pm. The cost is £2 per single session or £1.50 per multiple sessions. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Telephone the School Museum (01652) 635172 to book. A date to make a note of is the 13th September when we shall be conducting a walking tour of some of the other heritage schools in the town and Victorian Barton as part of the North Lincolnshire Walking Festival and Heritage Open Days 2014. Meet at the Barton Interchange. £3.50 inc. refreshments at the School Museum.

w.wilderspainschool.org.uk

t. (01652) 635172

Barton upon Humber Civic Society

Last call for tickets on our coach trip to Darfield in South Yorkshire on Friday 15th August - non-members are welcome to join us. The ticket price includes a guided tour of the Maurice Dobson Museum & Heritage Centre in this former coal mining village. The Museum is run by the Darfield Amenity Society, and some of its members will take us on a guided tour of the village's, following its heritage trail. Tickets cost £11.50 which includes refreshments in the Museum. We will meet at

the Fire Station for a 9.30am departure and will be back in Barton around 4pm. The journey time is just over an hour. Seats can be booked at the Wilderspin National School or by telephoning (01652) 635172.

Diane Brian will be giving her talk, Asleep in the Deep, on the 19th September about the Bennett Steamship Company whose vessels plied out of and into the Humber, passing Barton, from 1875. w.bartoncivicsociety.co.uk t. (01652) 632928

North Lincolnshire Print Open at The Ropewalk

The fourth biennial North Lincolnshire Print Open exhibition is proving to be a popular attraction at The Ropewalk arts centre with something for everyone.

The exhibition, which continues throughout August until September 7 and can be viewed in both the Artspace and Gallery One, attracted entries from printmakers from throughout the country with the final selection being made by printmakers Alf Ludlam and Melvyn Petterson who commented on the high standard of entry.

In all 122 prints were selected by Cleethorpes born Melvyn, who is a member of the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers and runs Artichoke Printmaking Workshop in Brixton, and Grimsby artist and former Grimsby School of Art lecturer, Alf.

The exhibition continues until September 7. Admission to The Ropewalk, which is open from 10am until 5pm from Monday to Saturday and 10am until 4pm on Sundays and Bank Holidays, is free.

FROM THE REGISTERS:

BAPTISMS:-

July 13 Joseph George HILL son of Gemma Mary & Matthew Lloyd HILL
July 27 Mackenzie James Alexander & Noahh Austin Clifford BECKETT sons of Donna Mary & Philip Anthony BECKETT

MARRIAGE:-

July 19 Michael Alexander WILIAMSON & Lauren Elizabeth CADDICK

FUNERALS:-

July 1 Donald WHARTON
July 3 Paul Leonard BAYRAM
July 7 John Anthony WILSON

A donation for Church flowers has been received in loving memory of Graham Askew

Barton upon Humber Civic Society. The Beck: A Public Display & Consultation

For so many years this important part of our town has not enjoyed the care which it deserves. Barton Civic Society is working on a scheme which could restore the area and ensure spring water, presently being wasted, refills an attractive pond, bearing the once familiar reflection of St. Mary's Church. [See picture centre pages.]

The Society is keen to share its proposals with all residents and has arranged for the drawings, old photographs and history of the Beck to be on show in St. Mary's Church Hall on Friday 5th September 2pm – 7pm, and Saturday 6th September 10am – 4pm.

We are also seeking memories of the Beck and any photographs of this area – there will be a scanner in the Hall for those willing to allow them to be copied.

We are looking forward to showing you what has, so far, been proposed and, most importantly, asking for your views; it is your Beck!

St. Mary's Bellringers

Ringling on Bike Night was a great success. A steady stream of visitors came to see what happens when the bells are sounding and were fascinated to watch them on screen as they are rung. A number of people were given basic lessons as a result of which three have decided to carry on learning. Katie has reached the stage where she can now ring for Sunday Service.

Jenny Bennett has been voted into the post of Ringing Master after the resignation of George Thompson. Congratulations to Jenny and many thanks to George for all his work in the past. The bells will be rung fully muffled during the evening of 4th August to commemorate the beginning of World War I. The ringers are looking

forward to celebrating with their Tower Captain, Geoff Bryant, who has a very significant birthday at the end of July.

Joan Barton

“O Lord, as you are no doubt aware from the front page of the 'Sunday Express' *...”

I remember well the first time I had to lead prayers in Church – it was while I was training for ordination, and to be truthful it was an ordeal. There was a sense of it being a competition in which each student would be awarded marks out of ten for right-on-ness, originality and knowledge of the day's leader article in a heavyweight newspaper. Leading the congregation's prayers didn't get much of a look-in.

It's hard to imagine anything that got it more wrong.

Leading the prayers of the people during worship has – rightfully – been given back to the whole People of God in recent years, and there is a long tradition of members of the congregation taking on that ministry at our Parish Eucharist at St Mary's. But it can feel a bit exposed to do this, and – unlike reading a lesson – some folk fight shy of it. We are short of different voices at the 9.30 Parish Eucharist, so in the autumn we'll be doing a session to help people take on this important ministry (it'll be open to people on the rota already, too).

It's not an alternative sermon, nor a current affairs briefing, nor an editorial on the latest Issue! It is about helping members of the congregation (including the clergy) focus their own prayers and thoughts during the time of intercession, reminding us of God's greater world beyond ourselves. There are loads of outlines for the prayers in the CofE's service books (it's hard to imagine that once upon a time 'Lord in your mercy' didn't produce the immediate response 'hear our prayer'), starting from scratch isn't a requirement.

I hope that we'll have a few people come forward (no obligation) to find out what this entails, so we can add some new names to the rota. If you'd like to know more, have a chat with one of the clergy.

* I am reliably assured that these words introduced the intercessions at a Welsh chapel one Sunday morning!

Fr. D.

Over to you.....

Alan and I were lucky enough to go to Switzerland in June this year (one of our favourite holiday destinations - if I ever won the Lottery which is highly unlikely I would go and live there!!)

The first impression one gets is the cleanliness of the country- not just in the holiday areas but travelling around too. They seem to cultivate a respect for their towns, villages and countryside throughout the generations. Even the steamers we travelled around the lake on were pristine-eating off the floor could have been applied to them. No litter, no graffiti in the city centres, beautiful pavement flower arrangements and displays untouched by vandals. No gangs of youths on street corners (and it was term time) to intimidate anyone.

So how disappointing to return home and read about how much litter the Rotarians had spent time clearing up- around the interchange, in the Haven area producing 14 bags of rubbish!!!! Even shopping trolleys!

Each church we went into was pristine too - all the books in pews, white walls, ornate altars and stained glass windows. Like ours, open all daylight hours. But there, even the tiny villages were the same. [See picture centre pages.]

Everyone has heard the saying 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' so it might help if everyone did his/ her 'bit' and maybe we could have the same results!

Have a good month and enjoy your holiday too!

S.W.

My Life in Athletics

Some time ago a certain associate priest –guess who—thought it would be a good idea if I wrote a short article about my involvement in the sport of athletics. So, here goes.

As a very energetic tomboy – not the refined young lady that my mother wanted me to be - I was interested in any sporting activity, except football, from a very early age. At Primary School I took part in anything that was on offer from, Country Dancing to Netball, and any other form of games.

On progressing to Grammar School, aged 11, I was introduced to a variety of sports in a much more structured way and found that I enjoyed them all. Within a couple of years I was a member of several junior teams, and had been introduced to the sport of athletics. Although continuing to play hockey, netball and tennis as well as swimming, I soon found that I was enjoying athletics more and was becoming quite proficient as a sprinter and a high jumper. This led to my taking part in the English Schools Athletic Championships (known as the Schools Olympics) as a member of the Essex Schools team.

After leaving school, college, work and real life tended to intrude and so began a period of non participation, but my interest didn't wane much. I still followed the sport as much as I could.

This phase ended when my sons asked if they could go to the athletics club. Both of them enjoyed it and found they were good at a number of events. Soon I found I was helping out at training nights, doing some coaching and starting to judge events.

Soon I was invited to sit the first level judges exam and so started on the qualification ladder.

Over the years that followed I progressed from local club events, through County and Regional competitions. Eventually this led to National events and from there to invitations to judge at International events all over the UK. At the same time I was getting involved in the disability side of the sport and following a similar pathway, carrying some of the skills with me.

The culmination of all of this was an invitation to judge at the 2012 London Olympics, and also at the Paralympics. This was a chance of a lifetime and was the ultimate prize for the years of work put into the sport, but it had not been a hardship. It had been a most enjoyable journey all the way.

It seems strange looking back on it now, but my strongest memory of all the things that took place in London centres round the first morning of competition. Arriving in the Olympic stadium at 9 a.m. we quietly went about our duties, ensuring that everything was correct and we were ready for the first event to take place. It was very quiet when we marched out to the site of our event. Before the athletes arrived, I happened to look up at the stands and suddenly realised there were 80,000 people there watching. You suddenly realise how small a part you play in

this type of competition. Television cameras are everywhere and the announcer tells you this is being viewed worldwide by 60 million people. HELP !! Please don't let me make a mistake.

Today I am still judging at all levels of the sport and getting just as much enjoyment from it as I did all those years ago, whether it is helping young athletes or seasoned Veterans to achieve the best they can and to make sure that they enjoy the experience.

On a final personal note I must add that without the support of my husband none of this would have been possible and so to him I say a huge thank you.

I hope to be able to continue for a few more years, contributing to the sport as it still so much fun.

Janette Murray

[Janette and her husband worship regularly at 9.30 on Sundays – athletics permitting. Ed.]

It's time for a rest.....

During August, the Choir takes its annual break to recharge batteries ready for the run-up to Christmas ("only five months to go", as the Vicar kindly reminded us at the last choir practice on July 25th!). Week in and week out, the singing is led, and anthems, psalms and setting rehearsed and sung. Over the years, and continuing now, we have reached a very good standard – and we want to maintain that. New members (who can sing) are always welcome – just have a word with one of us. What is slightly disappointing – from the choir's point of view – is the low numbers in the congregation for Choral Evensong, which is usually the first Sunday evening in the month, but can change. The work and effort put in really deserve a wider "audience", so hopefully we will see an increase in the autumn – the next Choral Evensong is for the Patronal Festival – Sunday September 7th at 6.00pm. Do please join us then.

Geoff and Alan

Year 5 Church Schools' Festival

In preparation for the Diocesan Church Schools' Festival in Year 6, a cluster of nearly 90 Year 5 pupils from Barton St. Peter's School, Barrow John Harrison School, New Holland CE/Methodist School, Wootton St. Andrew's School and Ulceby St. Nicholas Church Academy took part in a Year 5 Schools Festival at St. Mary's. The theme was "Jesus the Good Shepherd" and the children took part in drama based on two of the "shepherd" parables, cross-making, singing, handbell-ringing, discovery trails and making marshmallow sheep on a biscuit base. The day ended with a brief service based on the theme, during which some groups presented what they had done earlier. The weather was very kind, and all enjoyed a picnic lunch in the church grounds. All the children thoroughly enjoyed their day, and eagerly await the Cathedral experience next year. [See pictures, middle pages.]

Fri 1 st August	6.00 pm		Prayers before the Blessed Sacrament
Sat 2 nd	11.00 am		Lectio divina
Sun 3rd Aug		Trinity 7	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm		Said Evening Prayer
Monday 4 th	9.30 am		Toddler Time
	11.00 am		Funeral
Wed 6 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
Sat 9 th	11.00 am		Service of Betrothal
Sun 10th Aug		Trinity 8	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	4.00 pm		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Said Evening Prayer
Mon 11 th	9.30 am	St. Clare of Assisi	Toddler Time
	12 noon		Said Eucharist
Wed 13 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
	10.15 am		Diary meeting (Vicarage)
Fri 15 th	11.30 am	Assumption of the BVM	Said Eucharist
	1.00 pm		Wedding
Sat 16 th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
	3.00 pm		Wedding
Sun 17th Aug		Trinity 9	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm		Said Evening Prayer
Mon 18 th			NO Toddler Time
Wed 20 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist

		Parish News	Deadline
Thurs 21 st	am		Home Communions
Sat 23 rd	11.00 am		Lectio divina
	3.00 pm		Wedding
Sun 24th Aug		Bartholomew, Apostle	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	11.30 am		Baptisms
	6.00 pm		Said Eucharist with hymns
Wed 27 th	9.30 am		Said Eucharist
Sat 30 th	11.00 am		Lectio divina
	2.00 pm		Wedding
Sun 31st Aug		Trinity 11	
	8.00 am		Said Eucharist
	9.30 am		Parish Eucharist
	6.00 pm		Said Evening Prayer



Alan cutting his 70th Birthday Cake



Toddler Time "Teddy Bears' Picnic" party



Toddler Time "hands" montage



Esme on the Teddy Bear hunt



Church Midsummer Supper



Geoff and Rosemary Lamert



Tea time at the Summer Fair



Church interior, Beckenried, Switzerland



Making marsh mallow sheep at the Year 5 day (above); the finished product (below)



Groups working on drama (above) and singing (below)





Year 5 making crosses



Handbell-ringing